

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9184

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 02732

DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR ASSISTANT
SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. L1652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, GT' UK, GH. OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJ: BELIZE: PRESIDENT LAUGERUD'S PLANS TO DISCUSS ISSUE

WITH SECRETARY

REF: GUATEMALA L334

1. DURING FEBRUARY 20 CONSULTATION SESSION WITH DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS, FCO OFFICIALS MADE THE POINTS
BELOW REGARDING BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM BELIZE.
FCO HAD LEARNED OF LAUGERUD'S STATEMENT THAT UK HAD NOT
REDUCED ITS GARRISON AND OF HIS INTENTION TO DISCUSS
THIS SUBJECT WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER (REFTEL).

(A) BRITISH WILL WITHDRAW ONE COMPANY OF TROOPS FROM
BELIZE IN MID-MARCH. IT IS SOLELY A GESTURE OF GOOD FAITH
TO THE GUATEMALANS. THE GUATEMALANS WERE INFORMED OF THIS
DECISION ON FEBRUARY 2.

(B) BRITAIN MAINTAINS TWO FRIGATES IN THE CARIBBEAN. ONLY
ONE VESSEL AT ANY ONE TIME PATROLS BELIZIAN WATERS,
ALTHOUGH THE SHIPS FREQUENTLY EXCHANGE STATIONS.

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2. IF LAUGERUD RAISES BELIZE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER,

THE BRITISH HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL ENCOURAGE THE
GUATEMALANS TO TAKE THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS
"MOST SERIOUSLY".

SPIERS

NOTE BY OC/T: LONDON 2732 NOT PASSED SECRETARY'S PARTY.

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